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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shinya MATSUOKA                      Art Unit : Unknown  
Serial No. :    Examiner : Unknown  
Filed : January 19, 2000  
Title : SPATIALIZED AUDIO IN A THREE-DIMENSIONAL COMPUTER-BASED  
SCENE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please ~~CANCEL~~ claims 1-25 without prejudice or disclaimer thereof.

Please ~~ADD~~ the following new claims:

--26. An audio conferencing method comprising:  
receiving audio data from a source audio client;  
attenuating the received audio data based on audio decay characteristics to simulate a  
distance between the source audio client and a target audio client; and  
delivering the attenuated audio data to the target audio client.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the target audio client is the same as the source  
audio client.

28. The method of claim 26, wherein the target audio client is different than the  
source audio client.

29. The method of claim 28, further comprising delivering the attenuated data to the  
source audio client.

30. The method of claim 26, wherein the source and target audio clients are displayed  
as points on a viewing screen from which sound appears to emanate.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein the source audio client comprises a point source  
audio (PSA) client that originates from stored audio data.

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